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NSC/ExCom/BER-NATO

RECORD OF MEETING NO. 3
1100 Hours, 26 October 1962

1. Daily Briefing

Captain Sheppard, USN, and Mr. Hillenbrand provided a review of the military and political developments of the past 24 hours.

2. Security of Information

Mr. Nitze conveyed to the group the concern expressed by Mr. McGeorge Bundy about the details on naval maneuvers which are appearing in the press. Mr. Nitze stressed the need for utmost discretion in the discussion of operations which are under consideration.

3. Preparation for Further Measures

Mr. Nitze raised the question of the subcommittee exploring the precise steps, together with their timing, of informing our Allies of further measures which developments in the Cuban situation might call for. He cited possible direct military action against the missile sites. It was agreed that representatives of State, ISA, and the JCS would begin work on appropriate scenarios, tying in with comparable ones under preparation by other committees. (Action: Mr. Hillenbrand, Admiral Lee, General Gray).

4. Consultation with Allies

Related to the foregoing, it was agreed that we should seek a greater flow of information regarding Cuba to our Allies, particularly to the quadripartite group members, so that they will fully understand the problem. For the present, it was agreed that Allied participation in any action decision regarding Cuba was not to be sought. The precise channel for initiating the greater flow of information was to be decided, but one which was proposed was through the Ambassadorial Group, under Mr. Tyler's chairmanship, with Mr. Nitze to make the presentation on a periodic and regular basis. (Action: Mr. Schaetzel).

5. Nuclear-Free Zone in Latin America and Africa

This proposal was discussed in general terms. Mr. Schaetzel will report at a subsequent meeting the details of several pages dealing with the problem to enable the group to assess its possible effect on the Alliance. (Action: Mr. Schaetzel).

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6. U.S.-Soviet Trade-Off on Bases

Mr. Schaetzl will have a preliminary paper prepared on this subject for presentation to the subcommittee at its next meeting. (Action: Mr. Schaetzl).

7. Inspection of Allied Traffic to Berlin

General Gray and General Twitchell pointed out that they had reservations regarding paragraph 2.b. of the paper on this subject which has been forwarded to the Executive Committee.

8. Cooperation with France

Mr. Schaetzl said that Mr. Ball felt this subject was one which should be dealt with directly on a departmental level between Defense and State.

9. U.S. Berlin Buildup

General Gray proposed to submit a revision of this paper (#7) at the next meeting. [Mr. Nitze and Admiral Lee were called away at this point. Mr. Schaetzl then took the chair.]

10. Priority Listing of MAC Topics

Colonel Armstrong presented a list of topics as between which it was proposed to establish priority for raising with the MAC. The question was raised as to whether the subcommittee was the appropriate forum for this subject. No decision was reached.

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